

REMARKS

New claims 8 and 9 have been added which substantially correspond to canceled claims 3 and 4. Numerical references have been added to Figure 1. A cross-sectional view of Figure 1 has been included as new Figure 2. The specification has been amended to include a brief description of the drawings and numerical references. The total number of claims is seven with three independent claims. No additional fees are due.

Drawings

The Examiner objects to the omission of two elements from the drawings. Applicants believe one skilled in the art would understand the claims without reference to these elements in the drawing. Applicants have, nevertheless, attached herewith replacement sheets for Figure 1 and new Figure 2. The elements of the drawings are fully described in the specification. No new matter has been added.

Specification

Applicants herewith submit a substitute specification pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(b)(3). Please replace the current specification with the attached amended specification. The amended specification contains no new matter. Additions include new section, "Brief Description of the Drawings," and numerical references that correspond to the amended drawings. A marked-up copy of the specification is included that shows amendments to the original specification. A clean copy is also provided.

Claims

102 Rejection

The Examiner has rejected claim 1, 5 and 7 as anticipated by US 6,698,820 to Nakata. Dependent claims stand or fall with the independent claims. Anticipation exists only where each and every material element of a claim is found in a single reference.

Nakata teaches a motor vehicle side fender 14 having a skin separating an inside face and an outside face of the fender, wherein the skin possesses a breakable zone suitable for opening when subjected to a thrust from the outside towards the inside of the fender. In contrast, claims 1, 5 and 7 require the breakable zone to open “when subjected to thrust from the inside face towards the outside face of the fender.” (emphasis added)

Claims 1, 5 and 7 include at least one element not found in Nakata. In fact, Nakata teaches the opposite of and against the pending claims. Nakata cannot anticipate the claims. Claims 1, 5 and 7 are allowable.

103 Rejection

The Examiner has rejected claims 2 and 6 as obvious in light of Nakata. These claims and new claims 8 and 9 are allowable as depending from an allowable claim.

New claims


New claims 8 and 9 correspond to original claims 3 and 4, which had been canceled in a previous action. The Examiner believed claims 3 and 4 were indefinite. Applicants submit the drawings and numerical references overcome that rejection. Accordingly, claims 3 and 4 are reintroduced as new claims 8 and 9.

Applicant believes the claims are in condition for allowance. Applicant requests consideration and allowance of claims 1-2 and 5-9.

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Respectfully submitted,



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